



Preface

The 13th International Conference on the Physics of Non-Crystalline Solids (XIII PNCS), September 16-20, 2012, Yichang Three Gorges, China.

International Conference on the Physics of Non-Crystalline Solids is an international forum on the most recent achievements on the physics of non-crystalline materials. This conference was initiated by Prof. V. D. Frechette (1958, USA), continued by by Prof. J. A. Prince (1964, the Netherlands), Prof. R. W. Douglas (1970, UK), Prof. G. H. Frischat (1976, Germany), Prof. J. Zarzycki (1982, France), Prof. S. Sakka (1987, Japan), Prof. D. Pye (1991, UK), Prof. K. Karlsson (1995, Finland), Prof. M. Weinberg (1999, USA), Prof. A. Montenero (2003, Italy), Prof. G. Kordas (2006, Greece), and Prof. E. Zanotto (2009, Brazil). Chaired by Prof. Xiujian Zhao, the 13th International Conference on the Physics of Non-Crystalline Solids was held at Yichang Three Gorges, Hubei, China on 16-20, September, 2012.

Papers published in this special issue were selected from the following topics covered in XIII PNCS:

- Amorphous state
- Inorganic (including metallic), organic and hybrid glasses
- Glass transition and relaxation phenomena
- Rheology and glass problems
- Phase separation, nucleation, crystallization and glass-ceramics
- Glass structure and theoretical or computer modeling
- Glass properties, including optical and photonic, thermal mechanical, electrical and electronic, chemical properties, etc.
- Micro- or nano-structured non-crystalline materials
- Glass preparation, including sol-gel, CVD, etc.
- Novel glasses and applications in photonics, electronics, energy generation, medicine, dentistry and biotechnology, etc.

- Archaeological glass
- Quasicrystals

Nearly 300 delegates from more than 30 countries participated this PNCS 13, and 298 papers (1 plenary, 30 keynotes, 137 orals and 130 posters) were presented during the conference. The organizers are indebted to the endorsements from International Commission on Glass, the American Ceramic Society, the Japanese Ceramic Society and the International Materials Institute for Glass, and to the financial supports from Hubei Sanxia New Building Materials Co. Ltd., China Three Gorges University, Hubei Feilihua Quartz Glass Co. Ltd., Jiansu Xiuqiang Glasswork Co. Ltd., FiberHome Technologies Group, Hubei New Huaguang Information Materials Co. Ltd., Yangtze Optical Fiber and Cable Company Ltd., AVIC(Hainan) Special Glass Material Co. Ltd., and Hainan University. We are also thankful to the staffs and students of the State Key Laboratory of Silicate Materials for Architectures (Wuhan University of Technology) for their complicated and hard works.

During this conference, the following two PNCS conferences were also scheduled. The 14th PNCS will be held at Niagara Falls, USA (to be chaired by Prof. A. Cormack in 2015) and the 15th PNCS at Saint Malo, France (to be chaired by Prof. X. Zhang in 2018).

Wuhan, March 2013

The Guest Editors



Xiujian Zhao



Chao Liu